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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

KMT PAPER CALLS FAMINE SERIOUS:
CALAMITY STRICKEN AREAS GET SOME RELIEF

5 MILLION PEOPLE SUFFER IN NORTH ANHWEI -- Hong Kong Jih-pao, 28 Feb' 50

Taihoku, 27 February -- According to news from areas of East China devastated by unprecedented natural calamities last year, deaths from starvation and sickness are reaching several hundreds each day and the Communist authorities have no means of helping the afflicted people.

The Shang-hai North Anhwei Relief Unit reports that in northern Anhwei: (1) there are 5 million calamity-stricken people, 70 percent of whom have already exhausted their food supplies; (2) 80 percent of the people and 60 percent of the domestic animals have died from malignant intermittent or remittent fever, inflammatory disease, black plague, and smallpox; (3) 57 percent of the population in Su Hsien are without the bare necessities of life; (4) 49 percent in Su Hsien are in the same predicament with some 70,000 afflicted with infectious diseases; (5) each day there are approximately eight deaths from starvation in Chia Hsien and more than 30 in Hsu-i; (6) 250,000 persons are without food in Ti Hsien; and (7) 800,000 are without the bare necessities of life in Wu-hu Hsien, which is considered the richest hsien in this area.

COMMUNISTS OPPRESS AND IGNORE DESTITUTE -- Hong Kong Jih-pao, 27 Feb 50

Ting-hai -- According to informed sources, the calamity-stricken people in northern Kiangsu have been extorted and levied with illegal taxes despite their losses during last year's flood. Many destitute people are therefore forced to flee into southern Chekiang Province to beg for food.

Many such refugees have drifted into Shang-hai streets wandering about without food, clothing, or shelter. The Communist authorities are doing nothing to help them. In desperation, many young refugees are turning against the Communists and joining the anti-Communist people's national salvation armies in many localities.

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T'IENT-CHING GROUPS PROMISE NO ONE WILL STARVE -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 26 Feb 50

Pei-p'ing, 25 February -- On 9 February 1949, seven organized groups in the T'ien-ching Special District, including women, youth, government, labor, and party organizations, sent a message to Chairman Mao promising him that no one in the calamity areas within the district will starve.

The groups promised that they will concentrate on the "production for relief" campaign to help the calamity-stricken people.

STARTS PRODUCTION FOR RELIEF CAMPAIGN -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 28 Feb 50

Pei-p'ing, 27 February (Hsin-hua) -- The Pei-p'ing People's government has started a "production for relief" campaign in the suburban areas and has helped 50,000 calamity-stricken people to survive the winter months without starving. Of the 50,000 affected people, 25,000 came to Pei-p'ing areas from other calamity-stricken provinces. At present, the Pei-p'ing Suburban Committee is busy preparing the spring "production for relief" program.

SENDS RELIEF GRAIN TO HOPEH CALAMITY AREAS -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 26 Feb 50

Pei-p'ing, 25 February -- The Central People's government recently sent 25 million catties of grain to help calamity-stricken people in the T'ien-ching Special District of Hopeh Province.

The Ministry of Trade of the Central People's government has decided to loan 120 million catties of grain to the calamity areas of T'ien-ching, Ts'ang Hsien, and T'ang shan. The borrowed grain can be paid back after the wheat harvest.

HELPS DESTITUTE IN SHANTUNG GROW GOOD COTTON -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 28 Feb 50

Pei-p'ing, 27 February (Hsin-hua) -- Peasants in I-yuan Hsien of Shantung Province collected and sent 30,000 catties of food to help the afflicted people in the calamity areas of Chu Hsien.

The Industry Office of the Shantung People's government recently dispatched agricultural experts into the cotton-growing areas of the province to help the local farmers and cooperatives to produce a better grade of cotton. Some 2,622,000 catties of S-type cotton seeds have already been distributed to be planted in P'o-hai District, Wu-ch'iao, Tsou-p'ing, and other hsien.

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